

What is claimed is:

1. A system for determining the location of an object equipped with a tracking device capable of placing a wireless telephone call, the system comprising:
 - a mobile switching center connected to a telephone network;
 - at least one base station, wherein the at least one base station is in communication with the mobile switching center;
 - a plurality of wireless transmission antennas, wherein each wireless transmission antenna is in communication with one base station;
 - a location processor, the location processor being in communication with the mobile switching center, wherein the location processor is capable of determining the location of the radiotelephone through triangulation calculation;
 - a plurality of radio direction finding devices, each radio direction finding device being installed adjacent one wireless transmission antenna;
 - a monitoring center in communication with the monitoring center and a data network;
 - a plurality of database servers in communication with the data network; and
 - a tracking device installed on the object, wherein the tracking device is capable of initiating and receiving wireless telephone calls to and from the monitoring center.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein each database server has a subscriber database.
3. The system of claim 2, wherein the subscriber database contains lists of actions prescribed by subscribers.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein one database server is assigned as the primary database server for the monitoring center.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the monitoring center is capable of accessing a secondary database server.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the data network is the Internet.

7. A method for locating an object equipped with a tracking device capable of receiving and placing wireless telephone calls, the method comprising:

receiving a notification about the object from a caller;

requesting information about the caller from a primary database server;

placing a call to the object device;

requesting a location processor to determine the location of the tracking device after the call to the tracking device is established;

receiving radio signal information related to the call from a mobile switching center;

sending radio signal information to a plurality of radio direction finding devices;

receiving angular information from at least two radio direction finding devices;

employing a triangulation method to calculate the location of the tracking device;

and

transmitting information about the location to a monitoring center.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising:

receiving a list of prescribed actions from the primary database server; and

transmitting prescribed actions to the tracking device.

9. The method of claim 7 further comprises

requesting information about the caller from a secondary database server, if the primary database server does not supply the information requested.

10. The method of claim 7 further comprising:
identifying a new data in the primary database server for updating; and
sending the new data with update request to a secondary database server.
11. A method for providing assistance to an owner of a vehicle equipped with a theft detection device, the method comprising:
receiving a call from the theft detection device at a monitoring center;
receiving information about a triggering event;
requesting a list of prescribed actions from a primary database server;
requesting a location processor to determine the location of the theft detection device;
receiving radio signal information related to the call from a mobile switching center;
sending radio signal information to a plurality of radio direction finding devices;
receiving angular information from at least two radio direction finding devices;
and
employing a triangulation method to calculate the location of the theft detection device.
12. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
retrieving a list of prescribed actions from the primary database server; and
transmitting prescribed actions to the theft detection device.
13. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
placing a call to a roadside service center; and
transmitting the location information to the roadside service center.

14. The method of claim 11 further comprising
recording actions taken by the monitoring center.
15. The method of claim 11 further comprises
requesting the list of prescribed actions from a secondary database server, if the
primary database server does not supply the requested list of actions.
16. A method for providing medical assistance to a person carrying a medical
emergency device capable of placing a wireless telephone call, the method comprising:
receiving a call from the medical emergency device at a monitoring center;
requesting the person's medical information from a primary database server;
requesting a location processor to determine the location of the device;
receiving radio signal information related to the call from a mobile switching
center;
sending radio signal information to a plurality of radio direction finding devices;
receiving angular information from at least two radio direction finding devices;
employing a triangulation method to calculate the location of the device; and
sending the location information to a medical emergency center.
17. The method of claim 16 further comprising:
receiving the person's medical information from the primary database server; and
transmitting the medical information to the medical emergency center.
18. The method of claim 16 further comprises
requesting the medical information from a secondary database server, if the
primary database server does not supply the medical information.